



## Tropical Storm Idalia forms in the Gulf of Mexico on a possible track toward the US, forecasters say



FILE - Republican presidential candidate Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks during a Fair-Side Chat at the Iowa State Fair, Aug. 12, 2023, in Des Moines, Iowa. DeSantis said Saturday, Aug 26, 2023, in a post on the social media site X, formerly known as Twitter, that he has directed state emergency officials begin preparations for a storm.

(AP Photo/Jeff Roberson, File)



### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

Professional complimentary pictures on Tuesdays & Fridays

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm	ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm	JEAN PAUL SAXOPHONIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm	EDDIE KROON SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm	MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm	RICKY THOMAS GUITARIST 7:00pm - 9:00pm	ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm

**Everyday Happy Hour**  
★ 12-1 / 4-6 / 9-10 ★

**All Premium Brands**  
Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views  
enjoyed al fresco or in air-conditioned comfort

**KARAOKE  
HAPPY HOUR**  
9:00pm - 11:00pm

Reservations at: [watersedge-aruba.com](http://watersedge-aruba.com)

Tel. +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106

Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort

**costa linda beach resort**

**WATER'S EDGE RESTAURANT & BAR**



### Special Menu DINNER FOR TWO

Price	Available
\$90 + service charge	8pm & on

**Live Music Entertainment** Every Friday and Saturday from 7pm - 10pm

+297-583-2666

[RESERVATIONS@PINCHOSGRILLARUBA.COM](mailto:RESERVATIONS@PINCHOSGRILLARUBA.COM)

Promotion subject to change without prior notice





DAY OR NIGHT

# chogogo

Tours, Transfers & Events

**5924955**

www.chogogotours.com info@chogogotours.com



f i ISLAND TOURS OR BEACH HOPPING!
THE BEST BAR HOPPING TOUR!

**From Front**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Tropical Storm Idalia formed Sunday in the Gulf of Mexico on a potential track to come ashore as a hurricane in the southern U.S., the National Hurricane Center said. At 5 p.m. Sunday, the storm was about 95 miles (155 kilometers) east-southeast of Cozumel, Mexico, moving northeast at 3 mph (5 kph) with highest sustained winds of 40 mph (64 kph), forecasters said. Hurricanes

have winds of 74 mph (119 kph) and above. Forecasters said they expected Idalia to become a hurricane on Tuesday in the Gulf of Mexico and then curve northeast toward the west coast of Florida. Idalia could approach Florida with winds of up to 100 mph (160 kph), according to the latest forecasts Sunday from the Hurricane Center. That would make it a Category 2 hurricane. At a Sunday afternoon briefing, Florida Gov. Ron

DeSantis noted that much uncertainty remains in the forecast. "This thing hasn't even gotten to Cuba yet, and the water in the Gulf is very, very warm and so that will provide some fuel for this thing to pick up some more speed," DeSantis said. Large parts of the western coast of Florida are at risk of seawater surging onto land and flooding communities when a tropical storm or hurricane approaches. That part of Florida is very



**FILE - Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks during a news conference, May 9, 2023, in Miami. On Saturday, Aug. 26, DeSantis declared a state of emergency for most of Florida's Gulf coast as forecasters say a weather system off the coast of Mexico could soon become a tropical storm and start moving toward the area.**

(AP Photo/Rebecca Blackwell, File)



**Live Entertainment at 8PM**

 <p><b>MON Latin Dance Show</b></p>	 <p><b>TUE Steelpan Music</b></p>
 <p><b>WED Cultural Dance Show</b></p>	 <p><b>THU Acrobatic Show</b></p>
 <p><b>SUN Violin Show</b></p>	 <p><b>Nightly Watershow 7:30pm - 8:30pm - 9:30pm</b></p>

Stores are open from Mon to Sat 10am to 10pm and Sun 5pm to 10pm

www.paseoherencia.com

vulnerable to storm surges, Jamie Rhome, deputy director of the National Hurricane Center, said Sunday. "So it will not take a strong system or a direct hit to produce significant storm surge," he said. "So if you're anywhere along the Florida Peninsula, western Florida Peninsula, so let's say from about Fort Myers northward to the Panhandle, you've really got to be paying attention." In Cedar Key, a fishing village that juts out into the Gulf of Mexico, a storm surge is among the greatest concerns, said Capt. A.J. Brown, a fishing guide who operates A.J. Brown Charters. The concern is that if the storm strikes Florida just to the north, Cedar Key would get the powerful surge that comes from being on the southeastern side of the storm. There are worries in Cedar Key about a storm surge of two to five feet of ocean water, Brown said, and if the storm surge reaches five feet "it would cover most everything downtown." At the popular Bridge Tender Inn in Bradenton Beach, a large tent covering the tiki bar area where musicians play might have

to be taken down in preparation for Idalia, assistant manager Shannon Dunnan said Sunday. "If we get a big storm that hits, it would probably rip that tent in half," she said. But at this point, plans are for the establishment to stay open, Dunnan said. The storm was not expected to menace southwest Florida, where deadly Hurricane Ian struck last year. Mexico's National Meteorological Service on Sunday warned of intense to torrential rains showering the Yucatan Peninsula, with winds as fast as 55 mph (89 kph). It said the storm could cause anything from powerful waves to flooding in southern Mexico, mainly around coastal cities in the Yucatán and Quintana Roo states. It asked citizens to stay alert. Florida emergency officials on Sunday urged residents to keep their vehicle gas tanks at least half-full in case they need to evacuate. "This will ensure you can evacuate tens of miles inland to a safe location should the need arise," the Florida Division of Emergency Management said on social media. □



# A House impeachment inquiry of President Biden is a 'natural step forward,' Speaker McCarthy says

By JONATHAN J. COOPER  
Associated Press

**PHOENIX (AP)** — Speaker Kevin McCarthy suggested Sunday that an impeachment inquiry of President Joe Biden was becoming more likely, calling it "a natural step forward" as Congress soon ends its summer break and House Republicans seek to expand their investigative powers. McCarthy, R-Calif., has so far avoided committing to an impeachment vote or offering a timeline for possible action. Some House Republicans are eager to go after Biden over claims of financial misconduct involving his son Hunter, but the Democratic president has not been shown to have done anything wrong. Meanwhile, McCarthy said passing a short-term spending bill to keep the government running past the end of September would ensure that investigations of Hunter Biden could continue, a pitch directed at conservatives worried a bipartisan deal with Senate Democrats would not cut enough spending. The stopgap measure would buy time to work out a longer-term budget deal



**FILE** - Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., holds a news conference as the House prepares to leave for its August recess, at the Capitol in Washington, Thursday, July 27, 2023. McCarthy suggested Sunday, Aug. 27, that an impeachment inquiry of President Joe Biden was becoming more likely, calling it "a natural step" as Congress soon ends its summer break and House Republicans seek to expand their investigative power.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File)

before mandatory spending cuts that neither party prefers are imposed in the new year. "If you look at all the information we have been able to gather so far, it is a natural step forward that you would have to go to an impeachment inquiry," McCarthy told Fox News Channel's "Sunday Morning Futures."

An impeachment inquiry, he said, "provides Congress the apex of legal power to get all the information they need." McCarthy is walking a tightrope as he faces pressure from members of his party looking to demonstrate support for Donald Trump in the 2024 presidential campaign. But the speaker also risks imperiling the GOP's

fragile House majority. Even if Biden were to be impeached in the House, he is unlikely to be removed from office by the Senate, which is controlled by Democrats. With the House set to return to work in mid-September, the Oct. 1 start of the next budget year is fast approaching and a spending deal would be needed to

avoid a partial federal closure. "If we shut down, all the government shuts it down, investigation and everything else. It hurts the American public," McCarthy said. Conservatives, including many from the House Freedom Caucus, are usually loath to get behind short-term funding measures as they push for steeper spending cuts, using the threat of a shutdown as leverage. In June, a small group of conservatives brought the House to a standstill to protest McCarthy's leadership. All sides had agreed to budget levels during the recent debt ceiling negotiations when Biden and McCarthy struck a deal that established topline spending levels. But McCarthy's GOP majority rejects those amounts. A stopgap spending bill would improve McCarthy's negotiating position with the White House and Senate Democrats, the speaker said. "We're in this discussion together," he said. "And so we have got to have a stronger hand." □

## Trump campaign reports raising more than \$7 million after Georgia booking

By JILL COLVIN  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — For former President Donald Trump, a picture is worth ... more than \$7 million. Trump's campaign says he has raised \$7.1 million since Thursday when he was booked at the Fulton County Jail in Georgia on charges that he illegally schemed to overturn the 2020 election in the state and became the first former president in U.S. history to ever have a mug shot taken. Spokesman Steven Cheung said that, on Friday alone, the campaign brought in \$4.18 million — its highest-grossing day to date. The record haul underscores how Trump's legal woes have been a fund-

raising boon for his campaign, even as his political operation has spent tens of millions on his defense. The mounting legal charges have also failed to dent Trump's standing in the Republican presidential primary, with the former president now routinely beating his rivals by 30 to 50 points in polls. While Trump described his appearance Thursday as a "terrible experience" and said posing for the historic mug shot was "not a comfortable feeling," his campaign immediately seized on its fundraising power. Before he had even flown home to New Jersey, his campaign was using it in fundraising pitches to supporters. Trump amplified that message both on his

Truth Social site and by returning to X, the site formerly known as Twitter, for the first time in two-and-a-half years to share the image and direct supporters to a fundraising page. Within hours, the campaign had also released a new line of merchandise featuring the image that began with t-shirts and now includes beer koozies, bumper stickers, a signed poster, bumper stickers and mug shot mugs. Cheung said that contributions from those who had purchased merchandise or donated without prompting skyrocketed, especially after Trump's tweet. At the same time, Trump's political operation has been burning through tens of millions of dollars on law-



**Former President Donald Trump walks to speak with reporters before departure from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023, in Atlanta.**

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

yers as he battles charges in four separate jurisdictions. Recent campaign finance filing showed that, while Trump raised over \$53 million during the first half of 2023 — a period in which his first two criminal

indictments were turned into a rallying cry that sent his fundraising soaring — his political committees have paid out at least \$59.2 million to more than 100 lawyers and law firms since January 2021. □



# Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER and ABBY SEWELL

Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Three Republican members of the U.S. Congress made a quick trip Sunday into opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known visit to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years. They urged the Biden administration and regional partners to keep up the pressure on Syrian President Bashar Assad.

The roughly one-hour stop was a signal of the significant support on Capitol Hill for the opposition in Syria's long civil war.

U.S. Rep. French Hill of Arkansas, one of the three lawmakers, told The Associated Press by telephone after leaving Syria that the trip was the latest of his several to the region this summer to press the U.S. government and Arab allies to continue pushing for a political resolution to the war.

Hill said his message was in behalf of "those in Syria who want to have their own representative government."

The conflict began in 2011 after Assad launched a campaign to crush what began as a peaceful uprising against his family's autocratic rule. Assad has held on to power despite the uprising thanks in large part to the armed intervention by allies Russia and Iran. But the conflict has splintered the country, killed at least 300,000 civilians, and displaced half of Syria's prewar population of 23 million.

The trip comes at a time that Middle East leaders have begun restoring relations with Assad's government. By doing so, the Arab leaders are breaking sharply from the U.S., which is pushing to keep Assad isolated over government abuses that the United Nations says include repeated use of chemical weapons against Syrian civilians.

The U.N. says 300,000 Syrian civilians died in the first 10 years of the conflict.

Hill and his fellow lawmakers,



**FILE - Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., speaks during a Republican Study Committee news conference on the FY2024 budget, Wednesday, June 14, 2023, on Capitol Hill in Washington. Three U.S. Congress members, including Cline, made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria on Sunday, Aug. 27, the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years.**

(AP Photo/Mariam Zuhaib, File)



**FILE - Rep. French Hill, R-Ark., nominates Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., for the eleventh time in the House chamber as the House meets for the third day to elect a speaker and convene the 118th Congress in Washington, Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023. Three U.S. Congress members, including Hill, made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria on Sunday, Aug. 27, the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years.**

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon, File)

ers, Ben Cline of Virginia and Scott Fitzgerald of Wisconsin, entered Syria early Sunday from Turkey via the Bab al-Salama crossing in northern Aleppo province. They were greeted by orphans who attend Wisdom House, a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. Hill's constituents in Arkansas have been leading donors to the school. "It was an emotional day for me to see those children, holding up pictures of their parents

who'd been murdered by Assad's regime, getting a hug and a kiss from them," he said.

The children were students at Wisdom House, a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. Hill's constituents in Arkansas have been leading donors to the school.

The lawmakers met with opposition and humanitarian leaders, including Raed Saleh, head of the White Helmets, a volunteer group

of first responders known for extracting civilians from buildings flattened by bombing.

Saleh spoke with the lawmakers about the political status of the conflict in Syria and on continuing humanitarian efforts for victims of an earthquake earlier this year in Turkey and Syria, the White Helmets said on X, the site formerly known as Twitter.

Security concerns meant there was no public announcement of the trip beforehand. Hill spoke from neighboring Turkey, where the congressmen also held a series of meetings.

The last-known trip by a U.S. lawmaker to Syria was in 2017, when Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., visited U.S. forces stationed in northeast Syria's Kurdish region. McCain had previously visited Syria and met with armed opposition fighters. Also in 2017, U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, D-Hawaii, visited Damascus, the capital, and met with Assad, a decision that was widely criticized at the time.

Since the beginning of the uprising-turned-civil-war in Syria, the U.S. government has backed the opposition and has imposed sanctions on Assad's government and associates over human rights concerns. Washington has conditioned restoring relations with Damascus on progress toward a political solution to the 12-year conflict.

A growing number of Arab leaders are moving to end their own isolation of Assad, in line with arguments that engagement is the best way to address the flow of refugees, illegal drugs and other problems for the region from Syria. The 22-member Arab League recently reinstated Syria as a member after cutting ties earlier in the Syrian war.

Hill said he had engaged Middle East governments repeatedly over the past three months about "what are the ramifications of the Arab League's admission of Syria back to the League and yet asking nothing" of Assad in return in terms of greater political freedoms and an end to rights abuses.

Hill also is pushing for the U.S. and Arab countries to press Assad harder on Syria's status as the world's leading global trafficker of Captagon, a highly addictive amphetamine.

Congress late last year passed a mandate for the U.S. to target Captagon smuggling in the Middle East, and President Joe Biden signed it into law.

Hill accused Biden of not doing enough to pressure Assad to adopt political reforms and stop the flow of that illegal drug, an important source of revenue for the Assad government.

"What I believe Syria needs, and the same thing the U.S. needs, is American leadership," Hill said.

Neither the State Department nor the White House had immediate comment on the Republican lawmakers' trip.

Control of northwest Syria is largely split between the Turkish-backed opposition groups and Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, a group that was originally founded as an offshoot of al-Qaida and is designated as a terrorist organization by the United States. In recent years, the group's leadership have attempted to publicly distance themselves from their al-Qaida origins.

The Turkish-backed opposition groups have regularly clashed with Kurdish forces based in northeast Syria, who are allies of the United States in the fight against the Islamic State. □

**ARUBA TODAY**

**For ADVERTISEMENTS in our Newspaper**

aviso@bondia.com



## At Japanese nuclear plant, controversial treated water release just the beginning of decommissioning

(AP) — At a small section of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant's central control room in northeastern Japan, the treated water transfer switch is on. A graph on a computer monitor nearby shows a steady decrease of water levels as treated radioactive wastewater is diluted and released into the Pacific Ocean.

In the coastal area of the plant, two seawater pumps are in action, gushing torrents of seawater through sky blue pipes into the big header where the treated water, which comes down through a much thinner black pipe from the hilltop tanks, gets diluted by hundreds of times before the release. The sound of the treated and diluted radioactive water flowing into an underground secondary pool was heard from beneath the ground during Sunday's first plant tour for media, including The Associated Press, since the controversial release began.

"The best way to eliminate the contaminated water is to remove the melted fuel debris," said Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings spokesperson Kenichi Takahara, who escorted Sunday's media tour for the foreign press.

But Takahara said the scarcity of information from

inside the reactors makes planning and development of the necessary robotic technology and a facility for the melted fuel removal extremely difficult. "Removal of the melted fuel debris is not like we can just take it out and be finished," he said. The projected decades-long release of treated water has been strongly opposed by fishing groups and criticized by neighboring countries. China immediately banned imports of seafood from Japan in response. In Seoul, thousands of South Koreans rallied over the weekend to condemn the release, demanding Japan to keep it in tanks. For the wrecked Fukushima Daiichi, managing the ever-growing volume of radioactive wastewater held in more than 1,000 tanks has been a safety risk and a burden since the meltdown in March 2011. Its release marks a milestone for the decommissioning of the plant, which is expected to take decades.

They say the water is treated and diluted to levels that are safer than international standards, and so far, test results by TEPCO and government agencies found radioactivity in seawater and fish samples taken after the release were below detectable levels.

The Japanese government



In this image made from video, South Korean lawmakers from left, Kang Eun-mi, Woo Wonshik and Yang Jung-suk, hold placards which reads "Withdraw the discharge of the wastewater from Fukushima nuclear power plant into the ocean" during a protest in Iwaki, Fukushima prefecture, Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023. South Korean lawmakers attended a protest in Iwaki in Fukushima prefecture against the release of treated radioactive wastewater from the region's crippled nuclear plant into the ocean.

(AP Photo)

and TEPCO say releasing the water is an unavoidable step in the decommissioning of the plant.

The March 2011 earthquake and tsunami destroyed the plant's cooling systems, causing three reactors to melt. Highly contaminated cooling water applied to the damaged reactors has leaked continuously to building basements and mixed with groundwater. The water is collected and partly recycled as cooling water after treatment, with the rest stored in around 1,000 tanks, which are already filled to 98% of their 1.37 million-ton capacity.

The release, which started at the daily pace of 460 tons, is moving slowly. TEPCO

says it plans to release 31,200 tons of treated water by the end of March 2024, which would empty only 10 tanks out of 1,000 because of the continued production of the radioactive water.

The pace will later pick up and about 1/3 of the tanks will be removed over the next 10 years, freeing up space for the plant's decommissioning, said TEPCO executive Junichi Matsu-moto, who is in charge of the treated water release. He says the water would be released gradually over the span of 30 years. But as long as the melted fuel stays in the reactors, it requires cooling water under the current prospect. □

## Candidate who lost Guatemala's presidential election files complaint alleging voter fraud

By SONIA PÉREZ D.

Associated Press

**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)** — The party of former first lady Sandra Torres, who lost Guatemala's presidential election this week, filed a complaint Friday alleging fraud in the way the votes were counted.

The complaint is the latest attempt to eradicate competition to Guatemala's political elite in one of the most tumultuous elections in the Central American nation's recent history.

Torres, a candidate who

came to exemplify the political establishment in a country where many people have grown tired of endemic corruption, has remained silent since her loss in Sunday's runoff election and has refused to accept Sunday's results.

While the Supreme Electoral Tribunal recognized progressive Bernardo Arévalo of the Seed Movement party as the virtual winner with a significant lead over Torres, final results have yet to be made official.

Arévalo emerged as the

electoral surprise in the first round of the presidential contest, finishing second in a field of 22 and advancing to the Aug. 20 runoff with Torres.

Carlos López, a lawyer for Torres' National Unity of Hope party, filed the complaint on behalf of the party, citing irregularities in the vote counting. The complaint, read by The Associated Press, said they amounted to "electoral fraud that changed the true voting results, violating the popular will expressed

by the people through vote."

He presented no initial evidence to journalists to back up his claims.

In comments to reporters, López alleged that there had been duplicate vote tallies that called into question the country's vote-counting system. Though according an official electoral tribunal, in the 164 voting stations called into question, two vote tallies — one for presidential elections and another for municipal — were expected. □

### ARUBA OSTRICH FARM



### MUST VISIT!

- Fun Tour
- The best Shaved Ice
- Delicious lunch
- Fresh Fruits Smoothies
- Ice cold beer
- Unique local art Shop
- #1 Farmers Market

(Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)



**Restaurant**  
**RESERVATIONS IS RECOMMENDED**  
due to preparations and limited availability on ostrich/emu eggs.  
[info@arubaostrichfarm.com](mailto:info@arubaostrichfarm.com)

or Tel: 585-9630

**OPEN DAILY:**  
10:00 – 4:00 pm  
**NO RESERVATION  
NECESSARY FOR TOURS**



# More than 600 firefighters backed by water-dropping aircraft struggle to control wildfires in Greece

By ELENA BECATOROS

Associated Press

**ATHENS, Greece (AP) —**

More than 600 firefighters, including reinforcements from several European countries and backed by a fleet of water-dropping planes and helicopters, were tackling the remnants of three major wildfires in Greece Sunday, two of which have been raging for days.

Greece has been plagued by daily outbreaks of dozens of fires over the past week as gale-force winds and hot, dry summer conditions combined to whip up flames and hamper firefighting efforts. Across the country, firefighters were battling 105 wildfires on Sunday, with 46 of them having broken out in the 24 hours between Saturday evening and Sunday evening, the fire department said.

Authorities are investigating the causes of the blazes, with arson suspected in some.

In Greece's northeastern regions of Evros and Alexandroupolis, a massive wildfire believed to have caused 20 of the 21 wildfire-related deaths in the past week, was burning for a ninth day. The blaze, where smaller fires combined to form one of the largest single wildfires ever to have struck a Euro-



The view of burned forest in Acharnes suburb, on Mount Parnitha, in northwestern Athens, Greece, Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023. More than 600 firefighters, including reinforcements from several European countries, backed by a fleet of water-dropping planes and helicopters were battling three persistent major wildfires in Greece Sunday, two of which have been raging for days.

(AP Photo/Michael Varaklas)

pean Union country, has decimated vast tracts of forest and burned homes in outlying areas of the city of Alexandroupolis.

On Sunday, 295 firefighters, seven planes and five helicopters were tackling flare-ups that were creating new fire fronts, triggering evacuation orders for two villages, one in the Evros region and another in the Rodopi region.

The wildfire has scorched 77,000 hectares (297 square miles) of land and had 120

active hotspots, the European Union's Copernicus Emergency Management Service said Sunday. Copernicus is the EU space program's Earth observation component and uses satellite imagery to provide mapping data.

Pope Francis, addressing the public in St. Peter's Square in the Vatican on Sunday, said he wanted to express assurances that he is remembering "in prayer the victims of the fires that have burned in these days

in northeast Greece." He also expressed "supportive closeness" to the Greek people. On the northwestern fringes of the Greek capital, another major wildfire burning for days was now limited to flare-ups and was being tackled by 160 firefighters, one plane and three helicopters. The fire has already scorched homes and part of a national park on Mount Parnitha, one of the last green areas near Athens.

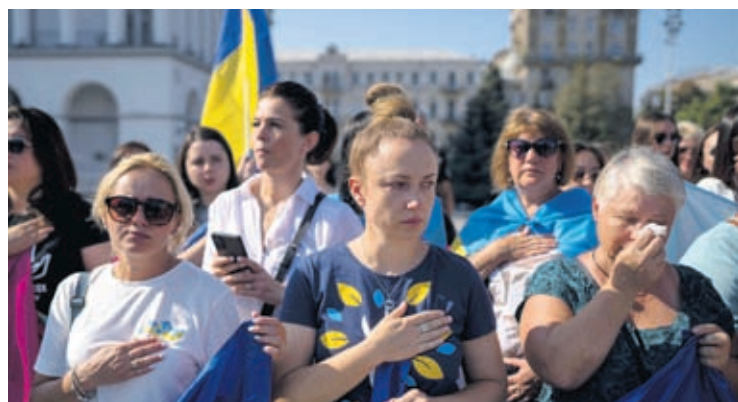
A third major wildfire start-

ed on Saturday on the Cycladic island of Andros and was still not under control Sunday, with 73 firefighters, two planes and two helicopters dousing the blaze. Lightning strikes are suspected of having sparked that wildfire. Flare-ups were also occurring in a large wildfire in the central region of Viotia, the fire department said.

With firefighting forces stretched to the limit, Greece has called for help from other European countries. Germany, Sweden, Croatia and Cyprus have sent aircraft, while dozens of Romanian, French, Czech, Bulgarian, Albanian, Slovak and Serb firefighters are helping on the ground.

With their hot, dry summers, southern European countries are particularly prone to wildfires. European Union officials have blamed climate change for the increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires in Europe, noting that 2022 was the second-worst year for wildfire damage on record after 2017.

The causes of Greece's two largest fires have not yet been determined. For some of the smaller blazes, officials have said arson or negligence is suspected, and several people have been arrested. □



Women cry while listening to the Ukrainian national anthem at a protest calling for the release of Ukrainian soldiers captured by Russians at the Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine, Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023. The protest marks five hundred days since the soldiers were captured in the besieged city of Mariupol.

(AP Photo/Bram Janssen)

By SUSIE BLANN

Associated Press

**KYIV, Ukraine (AP) —**

Ukrainian authorities have launched an investiga-

tion after a midair collision between two warplanes in the west of the country killed three pilots.

Ukraine's air force spokes-

## Ukraine investigates incident that killed 3 pilots while Russia attacks with cruise missiles

man Yuri Ihnat told Ukrainian television on Sunday it wasn't immediately clear how long the probe would take. According to the air force's Telegram page, two L-39 training military aircraft collided on Friday during a combat mission over Ukraine's western Zhytomyr region. Three pilots were killed, including Andriy Pilshchikov, a well-known pilot with the nickname "Juice" who was an outspoken advocate for Ukraine getting F-16 fighter jets.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in his nightly address

on Saturday paid tribute to Pilshchikov, describing him as a "Ukrainian officer, one of those who helped our country a lot."

Ukraine's Vasilkiv tactical aviation brigade on Sunday identified the other two pilots killed in the collision as Viacheslav Minka and Serhiy Prokazin.

Russian forces, in the meantime, targeted central and northern regions of Ukraine with cruise missiles overnight. Ukraine's air force on Sunday reported air defenses successfully intercepted four of them. In

the Kyiv region surrounding the Ukrainian capital, the falling debris damaged a dozen private homes and wounded two people, Ukraine's Interior Ministry said.

In Kyiv, relatives of soldiers captured by Russian forces in Mariupol, a port city in eastern Ukraine Moscow's army besieged and seized early on in the war, gathered for a rally marking 500 days since their family members were in captivity. They demanded that the Ukrainian authorities bring their loved ones home. □





**Casa del Mar**  
BEACH RESORT

Enjoy the freedom,  
experience happiness

contact us now for a viewing  
at one of our renovated suites

Selling prices starting at US\$ 1500 per suite!

+297-582-7000 Ext. 614  
sales@casadelmar-aruba.net

## Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on

the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.

Blackstone Beach shows

the more natural side of Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.



Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

This beach forms part of the



Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong

and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family! □

## Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a potting melt of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.

When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.

### Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At

least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayó" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

### Greetings during the day

Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phras-

es may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while "dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.
2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atardi", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting of the day.
3. Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

### Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

### Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much". □



## Over a decade in business, Aruba Living Today: Offering the so much needed human touch



**NOORD** — We are in 2023. It was a wild ride with Covid-19 and we all are aiming for a change of routine. We simply want to “live” life again. “It is time for living your dream,” as the quote says at Aruba Living Today’s office. “We are fifteen plus years in business, and I am proud to say that all our clients stuck with us. We are no part of a big company, we keep it small, personal, and real. Because you are not a number, no sales target either and certainly your name is not commission. Our responsibility is to make your dream come true,” says owner Randolph Arends.

### From human to human

If you have decided to buy a house or rent one for vacation in Aruba and you are looking for that match, the question now is how to click with a person that offers a personal touch? One who pays genuine attention and has sincere interest in what you want?

This different approach to real estate is what sets Aruba Living Today apart, and the reason Randolph calls himself a property mediator instead of a real estate broker. “The personal touch is essential to me. I am stepping aside of the image that real estate brokers are only in for the commission. This image does not fit me at all, I am in for my passion, and I can only do this from the heart.”

### One stop shopping point

Services offered by Aruba Living Today are House and Land Sales, Rentals, Investments, Property Management, Vacation Rental, Mortgages, Insurances, Maintenance, Assist in Arrangements for Notary and Utilities, Guiding Bureaucracy Process and Assisting in Import of Furniture. Randolph and his business partner Eladio Max Maduro. Born in Aruba, he was raised in the Netherlands. Max was Corporal mandatory in the Dutch Army/Genie der Landmacht. He also studied financial administration in the Netherlands, and has a degree in Dutch insurance law. Max has 40 years work experience in all kind of insurance, specialized liability and pension law. In the past, he worked for local and international insurance brokers companies.

As per March 1st 2023, he is working as a commercial partner at Aruba Living Today.

### You are welcome to meet in person

Aruba Living Today houses in an authentic Aruban house, welcoming you in a warm ambiance that emphasizes the philosophy of connecting. Candles, Buddha ornaments and a homey setting form the décor for you to sit and talk about your dream house or investment. “My goal was to do real estate in a different way when I established this company June 1st 2009. Not from the perspective of only selling, but to look for the perfect match between dream house and client. My philosophy is: it will only work when all involved are happy and connected by that personal touch.”



Aruba Living Today caters for both local and foreign market divided into 40 % local buyers and 60 % foreign buyers. “Our customers come from Holland, Belgium, Norway, Germany, UK, Russia, Latin America, United States and Canada. We are widely covered and thus provable good with different cultures, also we speak four languages.” Besides that, Aruba Living Today is open to every budget, they have listings for all category buyers.

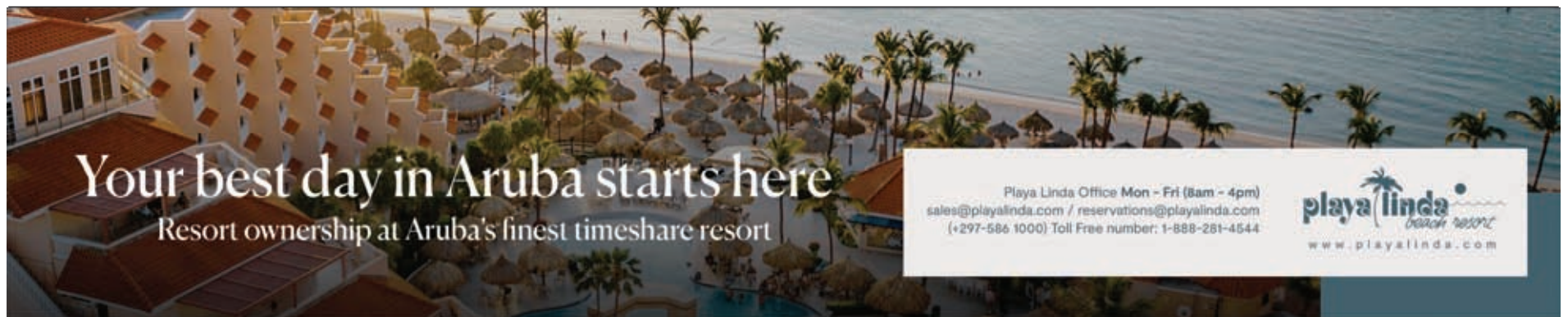
As a member of the Aruban Real Estate Association, they are listed also on the website [www.arubalisting.com](http://www.arubalisting.com) within a group of 20 of the most advanced realtors on the island.

Aruba Living Today is featured on House Hunters, social media, Aruba Living Today and of course in Aruba Today’s newspaper. □

### Aruba Living Today

Tankileendert 291, Aruba  
Tel +297 587 9987  
Fax +297 587 9985  
Cell +297 593 9177  
Mail [randolph@livingtoday.aw](mailto:randolph@livingtoday.aw)





## Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Marriott's Surf Club

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. These people were honored with certificates acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

### The honorees were:

Distinguished Visitors of Aruba  
Mr. Kenneth & Mrs. Christina Konarski from Connecticut, United States.  
Distinguished Visitors of Aruba

Mr. Pete & Mrs. Melissa Cannistraci from Massachusetts, United States.

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Marriott's Surf Club bestowed the certificates to the honorees, presented them with memorable gifts, and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their best-loved vacation destination and as their home away from home.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by Mr. & Mrs. Konarski were:

- "Aruba is our favorite island."
- Aruba's warm weather.
- Aruba's friendly people.
- Aruba's peacefulness.
- "Aruba is our home away



from home."

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by Mr. & Mrs. Cannistraci were:

- Aruba is a family-friendly island.

• Aruba has a wide variety of restaurants to choose from – Local & International Cuisine.

• The Aruba's Marriott Surf Club has hospitable staff members.

• Aruba's sunny weather.

• Island adventures! ☐



**SAN NICOLAS— At Just 11 miles southeast from Oranjestad you will enter the city San Nicolas, also known as Sunrise City or Chocolate City. A city that is rich in authentic culture and island charm. San Nicolas is Aruba's second largest city and was once a bustling company town dominated by the oil industry since the early 1930's.**

Over the course of four decades, its demographics had changed immensely due to a stream of Afro-Caribbean and South American workers who came to fill the jobs in the oil refinery between the 1920's until the 1960's. To this day traces of

## Exploring the Mainstreet of San Nicolas

the multicultural influences in culinary offerings and customs, housing and population are clearly visible in San Nicolas - more than anywhere else on the island.

### Flow of history

if you are looking for history San Nicolas has it. Here you will find three amazing museums, The Museum of Industry, the Community Museum and the Carnival Euphoria, all within walking distance from one another. The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. Here you will learn about gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and the tourism industries which made San Nicolas once a bustling business center. Experience the touching stories of those who were part of this history. Nicolaas Store built in 1940 and renovated in 2014 is the home of the Community Museum. The collection is remarkable and spans millennia. Ancient fossils stand next to tableaux of an authentically recre-

ated colonial kitchen and bedroom and 19th-century barbershop, just to name a few of the items of old-time Aruba that has been preserved. A collection of artifacts and other objects of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific importance can be found here for the purpose of education or enjoyment.

Carnival Euphoria is showcasing Aruba's Carnival. See how are Carnival has developed over the past 65 years.

### The new San Nicolas

In the shadow of the refinery, an art capital is quietly beginning to grow. This is the new San Nicolas, a place that is starting to become a magnet for all that is young, cool and hip in Aruba. Indeed, San Nicolas has all of the ingredients of an emerging cultural hub — varied history, interesting architecture, and, perhaps most importantly, an urban layout that makes it walkable. As you walk around, the streets are silent but the walls are loud, filled with bright, colorful murals painted by a

collection of artists from around the world. Thanks to the efforts of various art organizations in Aruba, such as Art Rules Aruba and Aruba Art Fair, San Nicolas has had quite the aesthetic makeover with regards to vibrant street art. Each year more and more stunning murals are replacing broken down buildings with colorful art pieces that keep brightening up SunriseCity.

### Must See, Do, Buy & Eat

A little bit of everything can be found in the main street. Stores selling shoes, clothing, jewelry you name it. Arts & crafts by Cosecha store & Creative Center, a design store in which you can immerse yourself in discovering genuine and locally made arts and crafts which reflect the diversification of the Aruban craft heritage and the artistic supply of artisans. Don't miss out on trying the exquisite food offered by the cafes and restaurants or just enjoy a peaceful walk admiring the murals, mosaic benches and all the history San Nicolas has to offer. ☐



## Episode XLII: The Watapana tree



**ORANJESTAD — Nowadays people erroneously call this tree Divi Divi.**

For Aruba Watapana was a means of living providing many with seasonal work. The plucking of the Watapana-pod and the cutting of the wood, it was very suitable for burning charcoal, were legally protected. Possibly the Divi Divi is a native tree, but it may also have been imported and grown. At any rate we know that the Spaniards on Curacao tanned skins with the Divi Divi-pods. Pods contain tannic acid and gallic acid. The high tannin percentage of the ripe pods was known before 1840. Mostly the tree is recognizable at a considerable distance by its "wind form". Not a single species of tree has a wind-form as typical as that of the Divi Divi.

The Watapana is a name

used by the whites and natives to call this fascinating tree. The name Guatapana (Spanish spelling) is also used in certain regions of Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Central America.

Pods were called Divi Divi, under this name it was brought on the market in Caracas, to be shipped to Spain. Today the real local name is being replaced and forgotten.

The Watapana grows almost anywhere on the island and the dried leaves and humus accumulated beneath are much sought after for their soil enriching qualities. Not in the least this action meager the survival chances of the specimen.

This tree was so important in the 19th century and up to 1920 that there was a severe penalty for those who cut a single tree. On lease grounds it was even worse. You needed a special permit by the Lt. Governor to cut one and you better have a very good reason to request such a

permit. Twice and in good rainy years three times the tree will bear. The tree was cared for to be free from beetles and weevils, for these pests would ruin a harvest. The gathering of the pods was the job for women and children.

The whole of Aruba awoke to fresh activity at harvest-time. Women and children went out with sticks and baskets or gabs to beat the pods off the trees and gather them. They were to hand in what they had gathered to the owner each day, who paid them twenty-five Dutch cents for every bag containing slightly over 20 kilograms. The pods had to be examined in order to remove dirt and bits of stalk as well as unripe fruits, after this they were dried in the sun for a few days.

The people sometimes plucked unripe pods, such pods were put into the ground where, after some days, they assumed a dark color and looked something like ripe ones though they hardly contained any tannin. Half-ripe pods, pounded fine and boiled, yielded a pap sometimes used as a popular medicine to be applied to open sores of animals.

Aruba produced a considerable part of the total Watapana-crops. The principal market was Hamburg in Germany. Divi Divi was used at the tanneries on the Elbe River for the preparation of leather that was manufactured into the greased leather boots of East-European farmers. However, Aruba never shipped direct, everything went via Curacao. In Eu-



rope Divi Divi was much in demand and tannin at some places sold for sixty to eighty guilders a ton. One of the best years was 1911, when Aruba exported 303.000 kilos, Curacao 652.000 and Bonaire 1.102.000 kilos.

The Watapana meanwhile has become the official tree of Aruba and was so decreed by the Aruba Parliament. However many times the not enforced laws concerning protection and conservation of natural resources and other heritages, gives the false impression that we



do not care to conserve. The economy that this tree once provided has fed many families. It is no coincidence that wherever you see aloes the Watapana is also seen. Both formed a means of income for the countryside during more than a century.

To get to know more about Aruba and its origins, its animals and culture, we highly recommend you to book your visit for our renowned cultural encounter session has been entertaining curious participants for decades. Mail us at [etnianaativa03@gmail.com](mailto:etnianaativa03@gmail.com) to confirm your participation. Our facilities and activities take place close to high rise hotels. □



### Asian Caribbean Impressions Menu

Spice Up Your Island Adventure

Savor the epitome of fine dining at Infini, where artistry meets cuisine in an intimate setting of only 18 seats per night. Experience the magic as our talented Chef Urvin Croes creates an unforgettable 8-course culinary dream right before your eyes, featuring our exquisite Asian Caribbean Impressions Menu. Elevate your senses and indulge in a symphony of flavors, blending the best of both worlds. Infini promises an unparalleled dining journey on Aruba, leaving you with cherished memories to savor forever.

Get in touch: +297 699 3982  
Blue Residence

2022 Travelers' Choice  
Tripadvisor

Reserve now

infini



## Unique fauna of Aruba

For a small island, Aruba sure has a lot of unique treasures. Among these, we have some subspecies of animals that are unique to our island. These have evolved to perfectly adapt to our desert climate and make Aruba their home. At the same time, they are part of what makes Aruba truly one of a kind.

### Cascabel (rattlesnake, *Crotalus durissus unicolor*)

According to the Arikok National Park, Aruba knows two kinds of snakes, the Santanero and the Cascabel. The cascabel belongs to the rattlesnake family. The cascabel is the only venomous snake from Aruba. It has a length of 65cm to 100cm, and is about 4 to 5cm wide. Its color varies from light brown to grey-brown, and its underbelly is white. On its back there are marks that are a little darker, in the shape of diamonds.

Its reproduction is oviparous, meaning the offspring can hatch from their eggs just before, during or immediately after laying.

The cascabel lives mainly in the Arikok National Park. It likes to live in dark places, and is thus found hidden among the limestone rocks and under stones. As a defense mechanism, the cascabel uses its rattle as a warning, and it is not an aggressive animal.

The cascabel feeds on lizards, small mammals such as rats and mice. It paralyzes or kills its prey with its venom, which is injected through a bite. The enemies of the cascabel are donkeys, goats, humans and cars. Humans are the biggest enemy of the cascabel, as they kill them and destroy their habitat for urbanization.

### Shoco (burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia arubensis*)

The shoco is a small bird which is seldom seen. They are active during the day but are more active later in the day and at night for

hunting. These owls have very good night vision and very good hearing. The shoco is the national symbol of Aruba.

The shoco has about 20cm of length, and the females are slightly heavier than the males. They are light brown in color, with many white spots. The belly of the Shoco is either white or light brown, and the shoco has striking yellow eyes. Its beak is yellow/green. Young owls do not have white spots and are lighter in color.

The nest of the shoco is a burrow in the ground. If the shoco cannot find a burrow, it will dig one in soft soil. The shoco lays one or two eggs every other day until all the eggs are laid – a shoco can lay up to four eggs. The first owlets hatch after three to four weeks. The shoco owl takes care of the owlets for three months until they leave the nest. Only a few owlets survive.

The owls dig burrows in the ground with low grass vegetation. An owl can live up to nine years.

Its defense mechanism is simply to fly away or retreat to its burrows. They eat mostly insects, mice and lizards, and the main threats to their survival are boas – an invasive species introduced by humans as pets – and humans through destruction of their habitat.

### Prikichi (parakeet, *Aratinga pertinax*)

The Prikichi is the national bird of Aruba. On Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao, parakeets can be found, but each of the three islands has a different breed. The Yellow-shouldered Amazon parakeet that we have on Aruba is also found along



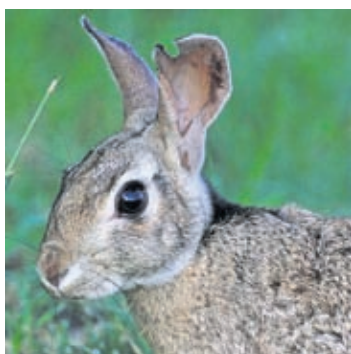
the coast of Venezuela. Unfortunately, there is interbreeding between the breeds due to cage birds from, for example, Curaçao being released on Aruba. The parakeet population on Aruba is in danger due to extensive deforestation occurring on the island because of the growing population.

The prikichi weighs between 90 to 100 grams. It has a greenish-brown head with some yellow around the eye. The back and wings of the parakeet are dark green, and the underside of the body is a lighter shade of green. There is also a bit of blue in the wings. The parakeet's beak is gray/black.

Parakeets often use termite nests as breeding sites. Parakeets are found in all natural environments (mondi) of the island. It defends itself by flying away and loud cries. Parakeets eat seeds from the pods of the Kwihi tree, Divi Divi, and columnar cactus. They also consume natural fruits. Its main predators are boa constrictors, humans.

### Conew (cottontail rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus nigronuchalis*)

The Eastern Cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*)



was probably brought over to the island by Indian settlers thousands of years ago as a source of food. This rabbit, locally known as Conew, has spread all over the island and has become part of our ecosystem. The very adaptable Conew can live in a wide variety of habitats, including Aruba's xeric scrublands, where it typically grazes on weeds and grasses.

The Aruban Conew has a brownish grey color and a distinctive white belly. This white fur extends to the bottom of the tail which becomes visible as the rabbit runs. These rabbits can grow up to approximately 40 centimeters in length over their short lifespan of 3 years. Cottontail rabbits reach reproductive maturity when they are just 2 to 3 months old. A female rabbit, called a doe, finds a suitable nest spot under a shrub or rocks and lines it with fur. She can have an average of 3 to 4 litters per year averaging 5 young each. The doe only visits her young once or twice a day to nurse her babies for a period of 2 to 3 weeks. The young reach independence at 4 to 5 weeks.

The Aruban Conew is an endangered species and protected by Aruban law. The Conew is thought to have drastically declined due to an increase in human activities, habitat fragmentation and predation by the invasive Boa constrictor as well as feral cats and dogs. However, recently there seem to be more rabbit sightings in rural and wilderness areas and also in the National Park. This could be linked to a recent decline of the invasive Boa population after the long period of drought. As the Conew can reproduce very quickly, a short break in predation pressure can lead to a fast increase of rabbits. Sadly, the Boas are back on the rise again with the truly wet rainy seasons we have recently experienced. This could cause a new decline in the Conew population that was just starting to recover.

These are but a few of Aruba's beautiful inhabitant, which we must all contribute to protect. For more information, visit <https://www.arubanationalpark.org/main/flora-fauna/> □



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 Notions

1 Parcel (out) sight of

5 TV viewing spot

9 Last

10 Wise saying

12 Spoken exams

13 Messing of "Will & Grace"

14 They may run under-ground

16 Give permission to

17 Hideous

18 Plains homes

21 Call on

22 Loving touch

23 Hooded snake

24 Bar perches

26 Slump

29 Paper fastener

30 Surrounding glow

31 Ball

32 Dark-furred martens

34 Buffalo team

37 Piglet's creator

38 Command to Fido

40 Catch sight of

41 Bears' lairs

DOWN

1 Desert sight

2 Make possible

3 Add the score

4 Different

5 Feeling down

6 Exalted poem

7 Aesop's stories

8 Concurs

9 Concentrate

11 Has dinner

15 Horse homes

19 Makes mistakes

20 Stew sphere

22 Chilled

23 Member of the force

24 Rank indicator

25 Café fixtures

26 Morose

A	R	O	W			A	M	I	G	A
T	H	I	E	F		T	O	N	E	R
T	I	L	E	R		O	B	A	M	A
I	N	S		E	I	N		R	I	B
C	O	U	S	I	N		S	U	N	S
	S	P	A	G	H	E	T	T	I	
			G	H	A	N	A			
	M	E	A	T	B	A	L	L	S	
B	O	N	N		I	M	L	A	T	E
E	R		A	T	E		T	A	X	
S	T	A	B	S		L	O	I	R	E
T	A	G	U	P		S	O	N	I	C
S	L	E	D	S			F	A	N	S

Saturday's answer

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9			.			10		.		11
12			.			13		.		
14					15			16		
17					18	19	20			
21				22						
			23							
	24	25					26	27	28	
29			.				30		.	
31					32	33				
34			35	36		37				
38						39				
	40					41				

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-28

CRYPTOQUOTE

YVZO VU AIO PTUPIVUO.

PLVJ VU AIO POW. FNVUM

VU AIO LVYF WVN. — NWYDI

LWYFG OJONPGU

Saturday's Cryptoquote: SUMMER'S LEASE HATH ALL TOO SHORT A DATE. — WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

## Broadband subsidy program that millions use will expire next year if Congress doesn't act

By KAVISH HARJAI

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — One of the features that President Joe Biden cited in his plan to bring internet to every home and business in the United States by 2030 was affordability. But an important federal program established to keep broadband costs down for low-income households is set to expire next year.

The Affordable Connectivity Program has not reached everyone who is eligible. According to an Associated Press analysis of enrollment and census data, less than 40% of eligible households have utilized the program, which provides monthly subsidies of \$30, and in some cases, up to \$75, to help pay for internet connections.

Still, the program has been a lifeline for Kimberlyn Barton-Reyes, who is paraplegic and visually impaired. Barton-Reyes did not have to wait for an in-person appointment when a seizure-alert system disconnected from her electric wheelchair in November.

The company that services her chair assessed the problem remotely, ordered the parts she needed and got the chair fixed quickly.

"Most people are like 'Internet is not a basic need,'" said Barton-Reyes, who lives in Austin, Texas. "It absolutely is for me."

Barton-Reyes relies on Social Security disability insurance for her income while she takes part in a vocational program for adults who are newly blind. She is able to pay for her internet connection with an assist



Kimberlyn Barton-Reyes, who is paraplegic and visually impaired, poses for a photo at a rehabilitation center, Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2023, in Austin, Texas. For Barton-Reyes, the Affordable Connectivity Program is a lifeline and its one-time allocation of \$14.2 billion is projected to run out by the middle of 2024. That could end access to affordable broadband for her and more than 20 million households.

(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

from the Affordable Connectivity Program. Barton-Reyes, who said an autoimmune issue damaged her vision, is working to get other eligible Austin residents signed up, too.

But the program's future is uncertain. Its primary source of funding, a \$14.2 billion allocation, is projected to run out by the middle of 2024. That could end access to affordable broadband for millions of people and hinder the Biden administration's push to bring connectivity to the people who need it most.

"ACP is the best tool we've ever had to help people afford broadband," said Drew Garner, broadband policy advisor for Common Sense Media. Advocacy groups are pushing Congress to extend the program. Enrollment in approximately 30 states lags behind the national average. Louisiana and Ohio have enrolled more than half of all eligible households. Agriculture

Secretary Tom Vilsack said the program has already proved itself.

"The Affordable Connectivity Program, the popularity of it, I think, is the kind of thing that will create the political-level support necessary for Congress to see that this is, at the end of the day, an appropriate utilization of resources," Vilsack said on a recent media call announcing new grants to bolster rural broadband.

Advocates say letting the program expire could damage the already tenuous relationship between consumers and internet service providers just as the nation embarks on an ambitious plan to expand access nationally.

Biden announced plans in June to distribute \$42.5 billion to ensure broadband access for every U.S. home and business. But internet service providers that bid on state contracts will want to be sure they have customers.

Lawmakers from both parties, as well as the White House, support the program. Affordable internet was listed as a priority in an Aug. 10 letter from Biden's budget director, Shalanda Young, to House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. Participation also straddles the political divide. □

**Honey Dolls**  
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

**Beautiful Latin Girls**  
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

**+297 565-9535**

**WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM**



# Sam Bankman-Fried's lawyers renew claim that the FTX founder can't prepare for trial behind bars



**FILE - FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried leaves Manhattan federal court, June 15, 2023, in New York. Lawyers for Bankman-Fried said Friday, Aug. 25, that prosecutors have delivered another four million pages of documents for the FTX founder to examine six weeks before trial, making it impossible for the former cryptocurrency executive to adequately review the evidence for an October trial from behind bars.**

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews, File)

**By LARRY NEUMEISTER**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP) —** Lawyers for Sam Bankman-Fried said Friday that prosecutors have delivered another four million pages of documents for the FTX founder to examine six weeks before trial, making it impossible for the former cryptocurrency executive to adequately review the evidence for an October trial from behind bars. Bankman-Fried lost the right to remain free on bail when a judge decided two weeks ago that the fallen cryptocurrency wiz had repeatedly tried to influence witnesses against him. Prosecutors say he intentionally deceived customers and investors to enrich himself and others, while playing a central role in the company's multibillion-dollar collapse after the equivalent of a bank run.

In a letter to U.S. District Judge Lewis A. Kaplan, attorneys Christian Everdell and Mark Cohen renewed their request for the 31-year-old to be freed so he can adequately prepare for his Oct. 3 trial. He'd been living with his parents in Palo Alto, California, under the terms of a \$250 million bail deal that was in place since he

was brought to the United States from the Bahamas in December. His lawyers appealed the ruling to jail him to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. And earlier this week, they complained at a hearing that he has had to survive at a Brooklyn lockup on bread, water and peanut butter because they won't provide him with vegan food. They said the jail conditions, his limited access to computers and the evidence against him, and the government's late turn-

over of millions of pages of documents has violated his Sixth Amendment rights, including the right to know the evidence against him. "We do not believe that anything short of temporary release will properly address these problems and safeguard Mr. Bankman-Fried's right to participate in his own defense," the lawyers wrote. Bankman-Fried has pleaded not guilty to charges including wire fraud and conspiracy. A spokesperson for prosecutors declined comment



Friday.

In Friday's letter, Everdell and Cohen wrote that the four million pages of materials was turned over to the defense by prosecutors on Thursday and it was expected that the government will "produce millions more pages even at this late stage."

They said Bankman-Fried had been working between 80 and 100 hours a week on his defense before he was jailed, even managing to produce a spreadsheet with millions of cells of data.

The lawyers complained that an arrangement allowing Bankman-Fried to be brought to the Manhattan federal courthouse two days a week for computer access is inadequate, in part because the laptop he is provided has limited battery life and no power outlet in his cell block to charge it. □



## HEALTH

### DOCTOR ON DUTY

**Oranjestad**

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

**San Nicolas**

Imsan 24 hours  
Tel. 524 8833

### PHARMACY ON DUTY

**Oranjestad:**

Sta. Cruz: Tel. 585 8028  
San Lucas : Tel. 584 5119

Women in Difficulties

### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850  
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002  
Urgent Care 586 0448  
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic  
+297 588 0539

### EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

### TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

### TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

### AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



### Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

### Editors

Pilar Flores  
Richard Brooks  
Angetette Figueroa

### Sales

Mark Gomes  
Sulaika Croes

### Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

### Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

### Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

f @arubatoday



facebook.com/arubatoday/



# Bob Barker, dapper 'Price Is Right' and 'Truth or Consequences' host and animal advocate, dies at 99



**FILE -** Legendary game show host Bob Barker, 83, waves goodbye as he tapes his final episode of "The Price Is Right," in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 6, 2007. Barker signed off from 35 years on the game show and 50 years in daytime TV in the same low-key, genial fashion that made him one of daytime TV's biggest stars.

(AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes, File)

**By FRAZIER MOORE**  
**AP Television Writer**

Bob Barker, the enduring, dapper game show host who became a household name over a half century of hosting "Truth or Consequences" and "The Price Is Right," has died. He was 99. Barker — also a longtime animal rights activist — died Saturday morning at his home in Los Angeles, publicist Roger Neal said. Barker retired in June 2007, telling his studio audience: "I thank you, thank you, thank you for inviting me into your home for more than 50 years."

Barker was working in radio in 1956 when producer Ralph Edwards invited him to audition as the new host of "Truth or Consequences," a game show in which audience members had to do wacky stunts — the "consequence" — if they failed to answer a question — the "truth," which was always the silly punchline to a riddle no one was ever meant to furnish. (Q: What did one eye say to another? A: Just between us, something smells.)

In a 1996 interview with The Associated Press, Barker recalled receiving the news that he had been hired: "I

know exactly where I was, I know exactly how I felt: I hung up the phone and said to my wife, 'Dorothy Jo, I got it!'"

Barker stayed with "Truth or Consequences" for 18 years — including several years in a syndicated version.

Meanwhile, he began hosting a resurrected version of "The Price Is Right" on CBS in 1972. (The original host in the 1950s and '60s was Bill Cullen.) It would become TV's longest-running game show and the last on a broadcast network of what in TV's early days had numbered dozens.

In all, he taped more than 5,000 shows in his career. He said he was retiring because "I'm just reaching the age where the constant effort to be there and do the show physically is a lot for me. ... Better (to leave) a year too soon than a year too late." Comedian Drew Carey was chosen to replace him.

Barker was back with Carey for one show broadcast in April 2009. He was there to promote the publication of his memoir, "Priceless Memories," in which he summed up his joy from hosting the show as the opportunity "to watch people

reveal themselves and to watch the excitement and humor unfold."

Barker well understood the attraction of "The Price Is Right," in which audience members — invited to "Come on down!" to the stage — competed for prizes by trying to guess their retail value.

"Everyone can identify with prices, even the president of the United States. Viewers at home become involved because they all have an opinion on the bids," Barker once said. His own appeal was clear: Barker played it straight — warm, gracious and witty — refusing to mock the game show format or his contestants.

"I want the contestants to feel as though they're guests in my home," he said in 1996. "Perhaps my feeling of respect for them comes across to viewers, and that may be one of the reasons why I've lasted."

As a TV personality, Barker retained a touch of the old school — for instance, no wireless microphone for him. Like the mic itself, the mic cord served him well as a prop, insouciantly flicked and finessed.

His career longevity, he

said, was the result of being content. "I had the opportunity to do this type of show and I discovered I enjoyed it ... People who do something that they thoroughly enjoy and they started doing it when they're very young, I don't think they want to stop."

Barker also spent 20 years as host of the Miss USA Pageant and the Miss Universe Pageant. A longtime animal rights activist who daily urged his viewers to "have your pets spayed or neutered" and successfully lobbied to ban fur coats as prizes on "The Price Is Right," he quit the Miss USA Pageant in 1987 in protest over the presentation of fur coats to the winners.

Among his activities on behalf of animals was a \$250,000 donation to Save the Chimps, the Fort Pierce, Florida-based organization said in an emailed statement Saturday.

"Bob Barker's kind spirit lives on at Save the Chimps, where we walk every day on the road named for him after his game-changing contribution," said Save the Chimps' CEO Ana Paula Tavares. At the time of the donation, Barker said that he hoped chimpanzees tor-

tured "physically and mentally" for years when being used for research experiments would find "the first peace, contentment and love they have ever known at Save the Chimps."

In 1997, Barker declined to be a presenter at the Daytime Emmy awards ceremony because he said it snubbed game shows by not airing awards in the category. He called game shows "the pillars of daytime TV."

He had a memorable cameo appearance on the big screen in 1996, sparring with Adam Sandler in the movie "Happy Gilmore." "I did 'The Price Is Right' for 35 years, and they're asking me how it was to beat up Adam Sandler," Barker later joked. In 1994, the widowed Barker was sued for sexual harassment by Dian Parkinson, a "Price Is Right" model for 18 years. Barker admitted engaging in "hanky panky" with Parkinson from 1989-91 but said she initiated the relationship. Parkinson dropped the lawsuit in 1995, saying it was hurting her health.

Barker became embroiled in a dispute with another former "Price Is Right" model, Holly Hallstrom, who claimed she was fired in 1995 because the show's producers believed she was fat. Barker denied the allegations.

Born in Darrington, Washington, in 1923, Barker spent part of his childhood on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota, where his widowed mother had taken a teaching job. The family later moved to Springfield, Mo., where he attended high school. He served in the Navy in World War II. He married Dorothy Jo Gideon, his high school sweetheart; she died in 1981 after 37 years of marriage. They had no children. Barker was given a lifetime achievement award at the 26th annual Daytime Emmy Awards in 1999. He closed his acceptance remarks with the signoff: "Have your pets spayed or neutered." □



# 16-year-old Yamal helps Barcelona fight back for 4-3 win at Villarreal



Barcelona's Gavi, centre rear celebrates with team mates after scoring the opening goal during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Villarreal and Barcelona at the Ceramica stadium in Villarreal, Spain, Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023. (AP Photo/Alberto Saiz)

By JOSEPH WILSON  
Associated Press

**BARCELONA, Spain (AP)** —

Teenager Lamine Yamal helped Barcelona fight back to win a 4-3 thriller at Villarreal in the Spanish league on Sunday.

The 16-year-old forward set up Gavi Páez's opening goal for Barcelona, hit the woodwork twice and played a key role in Robert Lewandowski's winning goal as an entertaining game finished in the visitors' favor.

"Lamine had another great game," coach Xavi Hernández said. "He helped us a lot, created tons of chances, and provided two assists. I was scared when (I started playing) but we have complete faith in our young players and believe in our La Masia (training academy)."

After he caught Xavi's eye while playing for the club's youth sides, Yamal became the youngest player to appear for Barcelona in April when he was 15 years, 9 months, 16 days. Last weekend he became the youngest player to start for Barcelona in its win over Cadiz.

"Fortunately I don't get too scared, I just go out there and play soccer, which I love to do," Yamal said after his performance at Villarreal.

"I am trying to make the most of the chances our coach gives me."

Yamal delivered a cross for Gavi on Sunday to head home at the far post and kick off the scoring fest in the 12th minute. Frenkie de Jong then doubled the lead three minutes later. Villarreal roared back in style.

Juan Foyth headed in a corner kick by Álex Baena in the 26th. Alexander Sorloth tapped in a squared pass from Alfonso Pedraza in the 40th, and Baena curled in a pass from Pedraza in the 50th to put the hosts in front 3-2.

But Yamal helped Barcelona dig in and get the win that kept them two points behind leader Real Madrid. Yamal went close to scor-

ing in the 57th when he hit the post.

After substitute Ferran Torres put in his own rebound to level the score, Yamal dribbled past his marker and unleashed a low shot that goalkeeper Filip Jorgensen did well to send off his post. The rebound fell right to Lewandowski for him to push in for his first goal of the season.

"It was a crazy game and that was partly our fault," Xavi said.

"But once they went ahead 3-2, we played our best and generated lots of scoring chances. I think we could have scored even more goals."

Nacho Vidal's acrobatic goal in stoppage time gave Osasuna a 2-1 win at Valencia. □



Palm Beach, Aruba

**Come and join the FUN!**  
**Everyday from 10am till 6pm**  
**We have DOUBLE points**

**BINGO**  
**Play Every Day**  
Bingo starts at 4:30PM

**Slot Play \$10**  
**Match Play \$15**

**Sign up and become a VIP Member.**  
**ID required upon redemption!**

**Operations Hours**  
**Slots: 10am**  
**Table: 4pm**



Located at RIU Antillas. For more info call: 5257777 or Follow us on  





## Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort

*Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!*

**Palm Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.**

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

### Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

### Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

### Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



*"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."*

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

